



Killam and Bassette Farmstead, South Glastonbury

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
 Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
 Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner



Linda Piotrowicz, Editor
 Wednesday, October 16, 2013

FARM TRANSITION GRANTS: GROWING CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE

Ron Olsen, Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation

Since their inception, Farm Transition Grants have proven to be a critical tool for many Connecticut farm families. Established through [Public Act 05-228](#), An Act Concerning Farmland Preservation, Land Protection, Affordable Housing and Historic Preservation (also known as The Community Investment Act), the grants are funded by a fee collected by municipal clerks for the filing of documents into the municipality's land records.

This important legislation, passed in 2005, serves to protect and preserve Connecticut for future generations by providing funding for municipal open space grants, farm viability and preservation, historic preservation, and new and existing affordable housing programs, along with new infrastructure to support and promote agriculture in the state.

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes [Section 22-26k](#), Farm Transition Grants are administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) and awarded to farmers and agricultural cooperatives for diversifying existing farm operations, transitioning to value added agricultural production and sales, and developing farmers' markets and other venues in which a majority of products sold are grown in the state. Awards are made as reimbursements, may not exceed \$49,999, and must be matched by the recipient, who has one year to complete the approved project.

This competitive program is very popular and receives many more applications than can be funded. A panel appointed by the

DoAg commissioner reviews applications to ensure they are complete and in line with the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes and program guidelines. The review panel considers the components of the specific application in the context of the total application pool.

In the upcoming grant round, projects that involve strengthening agricultural infrastructure and other measures to adapt to the increase in number and severity of weather events and projects that

enhance farm operations to follow Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and/or anticipated federal Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) requirements will be given priority.

Applications for the upcoming round of funding can be found on DoAg's website at <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3260&q=419410> and are due no later than November 8, 2013.

Farm Transition Grants have been very successful in accomplishing the program's goal of growing Connecticut farms and agriculture. Since the program's inception, 112

Connecticut producers have been awarded over \$3 million in matching funds for projects totaling almost \$12.5 million in overall value.

Funded projects have included agricultural buildings, equipment, fencing, promotional projects, energy efficiency improvements, and a host of other innovative ideas characteristic of the Yankee ingenuity common among Connecticut's farm families.

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APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 8, 2013

PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING:

- **strengthening of agricultural infrastructure**
- **other adaptations to increases in the number and/or severity of weather events**
- **operations to follow Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and/or anticipated Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) requirements**

**WHOLESALE PEPPERS
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
BELL,grn,1-1/9,md	8.00	9.00
BELL,grn,1-1/9,lg	14.00	14.00
BELL,suntn,1-1/9,lg	8.00	10.00
CHRRY,ht,1/2bu	14.00	14.00
CUBNELL,1-1/9,xl	14.00	15.00
CUBNELL,rd,1-1/9bu,lg	20.00	20.00
JALPNO,1/2bu	14.00	14.00
PBLANO,1 1/9 bu,lg	14.00	16.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

49-54	220-300 lbs	69.00-74.00
	300-400 lbs	75.00-79.50
45-49	220-300 lbs	68.50-71.00
	300-400 lbs	68.50-71.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	76.00-79.00
	500-700 lbs	82.50-85.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	n/a

PA GRADER FEEDER PIGS

Lancaster, PA, per cwt.
September 4, 2013

Gr US 1-	wt20-40	100.00	130.00
Gr US 2	wt15-20	140.00	140.00
	wt20-30	70.00	95.00
	wt30-40	60.00	90.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, October 7, 2013

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	22.00	28.00
61-75 lbs.	35.00	38.00
76-90 lbs.	40.00	42.00
91-105 lbs.	45.00	48.00
106 lbs. & up	50.00	55.00
Farm Calves	57.50	60.00
Starter Calves	20.00	25.00
Veal Calves	105.00	130.00
Open Heifers	120.00	130.00
Beef Steers	107.50	125.00
Beef Heifers	86.00	99.00
Feeder Steers	120.00	122.50
Stock Bulls	100.00	135.00
Beef Bulls	100.00	107.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	20.00	24.00
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Goats each	45.00	240.00
Kid Goats	75.00	180.00
Canners	up to	82.75
Cutters	83.00	87.00
Utility Grade Cows	88.00	92.50
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	25.00
Chickens each	4.00	16.00
Ducks each	4.00	21.00
Feeder Pigs	20.00	150.00
Lambs	60.00	220.00
Sheep	50.00	170.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

	Low	High
APPLE,crtnd,12/3lb,fcy	22.00	22.00
APPLE,gala,8/5-lb,tote	24.00	25.00
APPLE,gala,bu	24.00	24.00
APPLE,hnycrsp,bu	45.00	55.00
APPLE,mcn,96ct,xfcy	28.00	28.00
APPLE,mcntsh,xfcy,96ct	26.00	26.00
BEAN,grn,bu	18.00	25.00
BEETS,12s	18.00	18.00
BEETS,glnd,12s	24.00	24.00
BROCCOLI,14ct	20.00	20.00
CABBAGE,grn,12ct	12.00	12.00
CAULIFLOWER,12ct	16.00	16.00
CIDER,4/1gal	16.00	16.00
COLLARD,12s	12.00	14.00
CORN,5dz	12.00	16.00
EGGPLANT,1-1/9bu,md	8.00	10.00
GRAPE,cncrd,8/1qt	22.00	26.00
KALE,12s	12.00	13.00
PARSNIP,25lb	24.00	24.00
PEAR,bsc,3/5bu	26.00	30.00
PEAR,rd'd'anj	26.00	32.00
POTATO,10lb	2.75	3.00
POTATO,CHF,50lb	15.00	17.00
POTATO,szA,50lb	13.00	14.00
SQUASH,dicata,1/2bu	18.00	18.00
SQUASH,grn,fcy,1/2bu	8.00	12.00
SQUASH,grn,md,1/2bu	6.00	8.00
SQUASH,yllw,fcy,1/2bu	8.00	10.00
SWISS CHARD,12s	14.00	16.00
TOMATO,chrry,12/1pt	14.00	14.00
TOMATO,fld grwn,20lb	16.00	20.00
TOMATO,grp,12/1pt	10.00	16.00
TOMATO,hrfm,gnhs,10lb	28.00	32.00
TOMATO,plm,25lb	14.00	16.00
TOMATO,plm,cn25lb	10.00	10.00



CONNECTICUT FARMERS' MARKETS

September 15-October 12, 2013

	Low	High
APPLE,crtlnd,1/2pk	6.00	8.00
APPLE,emprr,qt	2.50	5.00
APPLE, gala,qt	3.00	4.00
GRAPE,cncrd,qt	5.00	5.00
PEAR,bsc,qt	3.00	5.00
BEAN,grn,lb	1.99	3.00
CAULIFLOWER,hd	3.00	3.00
EGGPLANT,lb	1.29	2.00
ONION,lb	1.40	2.00
PEPPER,bl,grn,lb	1.25	3.00
SQUASH,acrn,lb	.80	.99
SQUASH,yllw,lb	1.25	2.50
TOMATO,lb	2.00	4.00

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

September 27, 2013

Average Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	74.50	78.00
boners 80-85% lean	71.50	75.00
lean 88-90% lean	66.50	71.00
CALVES graded bull		
No.1 95-120lbs	123.75	144.00
No 2 95-120lbs	110.25	127.25
No 3 80-120lbs	66.25	88.50
SLAUGHTER BULLS yield gr		
High dressing	100.50	105.25
Avg. dressing	88.75	94.75
Low dressing	77.75	88.75
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm3-4	117.75	120.75
Ch2-3	113.00	115.25
Sel2-3	102.00	103.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
HiCh/prm3-4	124.00	127.00
Ch2-3	121.00	124.75
Sel2-3	114.00	117.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm3-4	106.00	109.75
Ch 2-3	99.75	103.75
Sel1-3	93.00	97.00
VEALER 60 120lbs	20.00	47.50
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
40-60lbs	n/a	
70-80lbs	155.00	162.00
80-90lbs	152.00	156.00
90-110lb	144.00	155.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3: md flesh		
100-120lbs	54.00	60.00
120-160lbs	54.00	70.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by head, est. wt.		
40-60lbs	105.00	130.00
60-80lbs	120.00	148.00
80-100lbs	142.00	162.00
100-120lbs	160.00	170.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130lbs	130.00	142.00
130-150lbs	155.00	188.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs	158.00	187.00

EASTERN PA GRAIN

September 30, 2013

Average price per bushel

BARLEY	3.00
CORN	4.53
OATS	3.22
SOYBEANS	12.70
WHEAT	6.87

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

Per doz., USDA Grade A/Grade A white in cartons
(volume buyers)

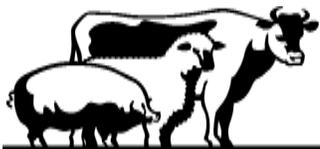
XTRA LARGE	1.22	1.26
LARGE	1.20	1.24
MEDIUM	1.02	1.06

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz., wholesale Grade A brown in cartons
(delivered)

XTRA LARGE	1.71	1.81
LARGE	1.63	1.74
MEDIUM	1.23	1.32

Updated prices from USDA sources are unavailable due to the shutdown of the federal government



ADVERTISEMENTS

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or call Jane Slupecki at 860-713-2588 for more information.

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

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119-R. Christmas greens, wreaths, roping, many sizes and varieties. Samples gladly shown. 203-457-1344.

122-R. Rototiller Maschio Model B, 80" wide. Extra H.D. 100 hp 4 speed gearbox. Weight 975 lbs. Really nice shape. \$4,000, Will Talk. 203-283-4472.

124. 2 yd. Gleason potting soil/compost mixer, conveyor, and hopper. Good working condition. \$5,500 OBO. 203-482-3816 or nick@sambridge.com

WANTED

120-R. 2 row corn head for a John Deere 3970. Complete or one for parts. 203-464-9647.

121-R. One Row P.T.O. Potato Digger. 860-559-5031 or 860-871-0171.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

CWAR ESSAY AND POETRY CONTEST

The Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report is running an ongoing essay and poetry contest. Essays and poems of up to 1,250 words about life as a Connecticut farmer may be submitted to Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov at any time.

Essays and poems must be original and unpublished. Winning entries will be featured in future issues of the report and may be edited for grammar, spelling, punctuation, and/or clarity as deemed appropriate. Winning authors will not be paid but will be credited upon publication.

Writers of all ages and levels of experience are encouraged to enter. Teachers are encouraged to use this as a class project.

Please email Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov with any questions.

FARM TRANSITION GRANTS: GROWING CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE

(continued from Page 1)

Thorncrest Farm in Goshen, for example, used a Farm Transition Grant to diversify their family dairy operation by constructing a new milking facility that also houses a cheese/chocolate production area.

In conjunction with rebuilding their entire dairy facility less than a mile from their old farm, Kim and Clint Thorn, along with their sons, put together a long-term business plan to sustain them and future generations.

The new dairy barn with milk room creamery is beautiful timber frame construction built in the tradition of the old style barn, while at the same time having "green" components including south-facing solar capabilities and composting. The farm offers cheese making classes in the new barn and its retail store offers an assortment of its own products including milk, cheeses, and chocolates.

A Farm Transition Grant allowed them to purchase much of the equipment necessary to complete their creamery, which opened in 2012 to rave reviews. It is worth the ride to Goshen from anywhere in Connecticut to see the magnificent barn and purchase the farm's fresh products.



Thorncrest Farm in Goshen

Renaissance Farm in Burlington is another example of a successful Farm Transition Grant project. Owned by Linda Graham and opened in 2007, this micro-farm consists of four acres in two locations and grows perennials and annuals, vegetables and herbs, and cut flowers outdoors on raised beds and in several greenhouses. The farm also sells hard goods, value-added food products, and farm services such as garden design, planting, and maintenance, and offer various types of community-supported agriculture (CSA) programs.

To increase sales, Linda wanted to build a harvest/retail barn with a kitchen and cooler areas that could also be used in an educational capacity. In 2011 she applied for and received a Farm Transition Grant to build a post-and-beam facility using much of the farm's own native timber. The result is a state-of-the-art building that is set up beautifully for a wide diversity of farm products to be grown, sold, and displayed. It deserves a visit from anyone driving through Burlington on Route 4.

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FARM TRANSITION GRANTS: GROWING CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE

(continued from Page 3)

A third Farm Transition Grant success story involves Marble Valley Farm in Kent. Owner Megan Haney leases land along scenic Route 7 adjacent to the Housatonic River from the Kent Land Trust and is an excellent example of a small grower leveraging these funds to not only upgrade her facility but also work with a local land trust to keep four acres of prime farmland in production.

Megan started Marble Valley Farm in 2006 and has built up a thriving CSA and farm stand business in addition to selling to area restaurants and businesses, all while working out of the old dairy barn located on site. A greenhouse adjacent to the barn and the entire growing area has been fenced in to protect against damage from deer and other wildlife with a grant from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

This old dairy facility, which Megan was using for processing, storage, and packing for the CSA, needed to be upgraded and retrofitted to improve efficiency of the entire operation. A Farm Transition Grant enabled Megan to build a walk-in cooler and tomato storage, make structural repairs to flooring and supports inside the barn, build a shade structure for the farm stand, and renovate the wash room facility.

These stories are just three examples of projects funded through Farm Transition Grants that have helped to grow Connecticut farm businesses through diversification and strategic expansion. The sur-

rounding communities have also benefitted by having these farms as an essential part of the local economy, culture, and working landscape.

For more information about the Farm Transition Grants, please visit www.CTGrown.gov and click on "Programs, Services, and Grants" at the left of the page, or contact Ron Olsen at 860-713-2550 or Ronald.olsen@ct.gov.



Renaissance Farm in Burlington



Killam and Bassette Farmstead, South Glastonbury

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. (Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses are counted separately.) Print or type copy. Advertisements accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Ads with payment must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion in that issue. Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted. Remittance with copy required. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

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